(b) if so the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Production of tea

108. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the production of different grades of tea in the country during the year 1985 and the production target for that year;

(b) what was the quantum of tea exported during 1985 and to which countries; and

(c) the quantum of foreign exchange earned therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) As against a target of 655 Million Kgs. estimates of production of tea during 1985, according to different methods of manufacture are as under:—

	Qty. (M. Kgs.)
C.T.C.	473·51
Orthodox	171·36
Green Tea	12·42
TOTAL	657·29

(b) and (c) Indian tea is exported to a large number of countries all over the world. Major importers of tea from India are USSR, U.K. ARE, West Germany, Iraq and Iran.

Quality and value of tea exported during 1985 is as under:—

Quantity (M. Kgs.)	Value (Crores)
222·4	711·00 (Provisionl)

Import of cement

109. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to import 100,000 tonnes cement from Indonesia; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL AND SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A contract has been signed by the S.T.C. import of cement from Indonesia. The purchase is being done at internationally competitive prices.

News Item captioned FCI found cheating on wheat supply

110. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news item captioned 'FCI found cheating on wheat supply' which appeared in the *Indian Express*, New Delhi on the 8th February, 1986;

(b) if so, what are the facts of the case and the outcome of the investigation, if any, made into the matter; and

(c) the remedial measures taken or proposed to be taken by Government to to prevent any bad name being earned by the FCI for such under-weighment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On 31.1.1986, Weights and Measures Department of Delhi Administration weighhed at random 10 bags out of 30 bags issued by Food Corporation of India at its Ghavera depot to Delhi State Civil Supplies Corporation for distribution through fair price shops and found shortages of 24.5 kgs. The Food Corporation of India is investigating the matter with a view to fixing responsibiliy on its employees for their lapse.

(c) The Food Corporation of India has been directed to ensure standardisation of bags as also 100 per cent weighment of stocks issued.

Functioning of non-banking finance companies

111. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the functioning of non-banking finance companies in the country which are heading towards liquidation devouring the savings of thousands of small investor running into crores of rupees;

(b) whether it is a fact that according to the 1984 amendment to the Reserve Bank of India Act, the non-banking finance companies were required to reduce deposits within a period of two years in accordance with the provisions of the Act;

(c) whether any machinery was set up by Government to monitor the progress in this regard, if so, what are the details thereof and if not what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps Government have taken to safeguard the interests of the small depositors with the non-banking finance companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Complaints had been received about efforts being made by unincorporated bodies inducing unsuspecting public to deposit savings with them and subsequently mismanaging these concerns thereby depriving the depositors of their investments. In the wake of these complaints a need was felt for controlling the deposit acceptance activity of individuals, firms and other un-incorporated bodies and therefor Chapter III-C of the Reserve Bank of India Act was enacted through the Banking Laws (Amendment) Act, 1986. The above provisions were brought into force with effect from 15th February, 1984. In terms of the above provisions, individuals, firms or un-incorporated associations of individuals are prohibited from accepting deposits from more than a specified number of depositors.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) In terms of the provisions of Chapter III-C of the Reserve Bank of India Act, concurrent jurisdication has been vested in the Reserve Bank of India as well as State Governments for implementation of the provisions of Chapter III-C of the Act. Reserve Bank of India had already requested all the State Governments to create the necessary machinery in this regard. According to the information available with Reserve Bank of India the State Governments of West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and the Union Territory of Delhi have so far taken necessary steps for implementation of the provisions of the Act. The other State Governments/Union Territories have been requested by Reserve Bank of India to take steps for creation of necessary machinery early.

On the basis of the complaints it had received and after scrutiny of certain advertisements appearing in the press, Reserve Bank of India, on its own has taken certain steps to apprehend the persons violating the provisions of the Act.